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Title : Need to construct Mannarkkad bye-pass and a new bridge in place of Kunthipuzha bridge on N.H. 213 in Kerala.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): N.H. 213- Kozhikode-Palakkad is one of the important Highways of Kerala. The bridge over the Kunthipuzha on this Highway was built by the British Government and the width and total span of the bridge is not sufficient for present requirements. Since, it is an important Highway all containers and LPG tankers from Kozhikode to Palakkad and Coimbatore are using this road for transporting goods and commodities. Due to the rapid increase in traffic volume and the sharp curve adjacent to the bridge, accidents are frequently happening. Traffic blocks may extend upto 24 to 48 hours in most cases. No alternative route is available. Hence, the only solution to solve this issue is to construct a new bridge in place of the old one. The concerned Ministry in 2006 had appointed an agency for feasibility study and presentation of DPR for the construction of Mannarkkad bye-pass. Now, the study is over and the report has been submitted. In view of the urgency of the situation, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to construct Mannarkkad bye-pass and also to build a new bridge.